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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/677,912	10/03/2000	Kenneth P. Baclawski	J0003/7005	6118

21127 7590 08/14/2002

KUDIRKA & JOBSE, LLP
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BOSTON, MA 02109

EXAMINER

KINDRED, ALFORD W

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2172

DATE MAILED: 08/14/2002

3

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/677,912

Applicant(s)

BACLAWSKI, KENNETH P.

Examiner

Alford W. Kindred

Art Unit

2172

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 03 October 2000.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-36 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-36 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 2.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other:

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is responsive to communications: application, filed on 10/03/00.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

3. Claims 1-36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Kirk et al., US# 5,768,578.

As per claims 1 and 10-11, Kirk et al. teaches “providing a knowledge representation graph structure of the query to a retrieval engine . . . source in collection” (see abstract) “matching the query knowledge representation graph structure . . .” (see fig. 6—sheet 6 of 8) “to generate a hierarchy of supergraph structures . . .” (see col. 2, lines 39-64).

As per claims 2-3, Kirk et al. teaches “vertices that represent concepts, words and phrases” (see col. 3, lines 65-67 and col. 4, lines 1-25).

As per claims 4-6, Kirk et al. teaches “visually displaying the knowledge representation graph structure of query to a user” (see fig. 7—sheet).

As per claims 7, Kirk et al. teaches “displaying the hierarchy and identifying information for each information source” (see col. 5, lines 12-37).

As per claims 8-9, Kirk et al. teaches “query knowledge representation by processing the query . . .” (see col. 5, lines 21-58).

As per claim 12, these claims are rejected on grounds corresponding to the arguments given above for rejected claims 1-2 and are similarly rejected.

As per claims 13-16, Kirk et al. teaches “highlighting a feature in the graph structure . . . an item in the information source content . . .” (see fig. 7-sheet 7 of 8, i.e. 708).

As per claims 17-27, these claims are rejected on grounds corresponding to the arguments given above for rejected claims 1-11 and are similarly rejected.

As per claims 28-32, these claims are rejected on grounds corresponding to the arguments given above for rejected claims 12-16 and are similarly rejected.

As per claims 33-36, these claims are rejected on grounds corresponding to the arguments given above for rejected claims 1 and 12 and are similarly rejected.

Conclusion

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

--US# 4,964,063

5. Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

or faxed to:

(703)- (703)-746-7239 (**formal** communications intended for entry),

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to:

Sixth Floor Receptionist, Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to

Alford Kindred, whose telephone number is (703)-305-3802 and can normally be reached Monday-Friday from 8:30 AM to 5 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kim Vu, can be reached at (703)-305-4393.

Application/Control Number: 09/677,912

Page 5

Art Unit: 2172

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the group receptionist whose telephone number is (703)-305-3900.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alford W. Kindred', written in a cursive style.

Alford W. Kindred

Patent Examiner

Tech Ctr. 2100